FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

9 JULY 1986

Jordan

PLO Offices Closure — Jordan's closure of PLO offices is a "serious" measure indicating that there is a plan to "abandon" the PLO, strike at it politically, and break its ties with the Palestinians living under Israeli occupation, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir asserted in an interview with Radio Monte Carlo. Despite its differences with Jordan, the PLO has taken care not to resort to "abuses or recriminations," Al-Wazir maintained, adding that Jordan used the 19 June Fatah Revolutionary Council statement as a "pretext." In other Palestinian comment cited by Radio Monte Carlo, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf viewed Al-Wazir's expulsion from Jordan as "illegal" because he holds Jordanian citizenship. In Damascus, the DFLP and PFLP denounced the Jordanian action, which was not mentioned in official Syrian media, the radio noted.

Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said he is happy that Jordan made the "important decision" to close PLO offices, asserting that the PLO is the main obstacle to a dialogue with Jordan, IDF radio reported. Israel will shortly take firmer measures against Fatah supporters in the occupied territories in order to strengthen King Husayn's supporters and complement his decision to remove Fatah offices, the Israeli paper *Ma'ariv* disclosed.

Other Developments — King Husayn arrived in Al-Ta'if at the start of a visit to Saudi Arabia, Riyadh radio reported, adding that he was received by Saudi King Fahd. Meanwhile, the speaker of Jordan's House of Representatives told the London paper *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* that Husayn will visit Damascus and Baghdad this week to resume his mediation efforts between Syria and Iraq.

As for the universities issue, *Sawt al-Sha'b* revealed that the Higher Education Council has decided to dismiss 15 teachers at Al-Yarmuk University and has recommended that King Husayn accept the resignation of the university president.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi forces killed 10,000 Iranian troops and wounded 20,000 more in fighting "this week" in the Mehran sector, according to an Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA. In 8 July activity, "grave losses" were inflicted upon attacking Iranian troops in the area, according to a military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio.

For Iran's part, Tehran radio announced that Iranian warplanes raided Iraqi positions in the Mehran area 9 July, and a military communique cited by IRNA announced four air strikes against Iraqi positions in the area the previous day. The agency reported that another 2,000 Iraqis were killed or wounded in the Iranian attack 8 July, adding that Iran has now captured 3,100 sq km of territory since the Mehran offensive began 30 June.

Maghreb

Tunisia — President Habib Bourguiba dismissed Mohamed Mzali from his posts of prime minister and secretary general of the Destourian Socialist Party, according to Tunis radio, which added that Bourguiba replaced him in both positions with Rachid Sfar, formerly the finance and economy minister. Bourguiba and Sfar discussed the country's economic situation 8 July, the radio added.

Algeria — President Chadli Bendjedid's stay in a Brussels hospital is proceeding "under very good conditions," Algiers radio reported, adding that postoperative developments are "satisfactory."

Syria

A "responsible source" cited by Damascus radio said Syria condemned the Madrid airport explosion and other similar acts that harm the Arab nation, while noting that Syria continues to condemn acts that serve the "imperialist and Zionist" policy of branding national struggle as terrorism.

Lebanon

New security measures have been implemented in and around Beirut Airport, the head of the airport's security service announced in a statement reported by Voice of Lebanon radio. On the extent of Syrian involvement in the security plan, an Israeli military source cited by *The Jerusalem Post* stated that the Syrians have sent only 150 troops to Beirut.

Libya

Greece has decided to cut the staff of the Libyan Embassy in Athens by 15-20 people, according to a Greek Government spokesman cited by Athens radio.

Iran

A Petroleum Ministry official cited by IRNA stated that Iran will not accept an OPEC production ceiling of 17.6 million barrels per day nor "unrealistic" quotas.

PDRY

The YSP Central Committee Political Bureau highly assessed the results of the PDRY-YAR-Libya talks held recently in Tripoli, according to Aden radio, which added that the Political Bureau expressed satisfaction with the development of dialogue between the PDRY and YAR for achieving Yemeni unity.

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Pakistani Border Violation Claims Protested

LD081426 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1130 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Kabul, 17th of Saratan, *Bakhtar* — The charge d'affaires of Pakistan's Embassy in Kabul was summoned to the Foreign Affairs Ministry this morning at 11:30; the following things were pointed out to him by the director of the First Political Department:

The Pakistan Government has once again claimed that the region of Dobandi in Chaman and Sheiman in Khyber Agency were violated by the DRA Armed Forces on 23 June and 1 July, respectively. The DRA Government, after all-round investigation and assessment, considers these claims groundless and devoid of truth, resolutely rejects them and adds that Pakistani authorities should stop making this sort of accusation, which has no consequence but to aggravate the situation on the borders.

Karmal Enumerates Party Unity, Leadership Tasks

LD090400 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Excerpts] Comrade Babrak Karmal, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, met the member of the Executive Committee of the People's Delegates Council and members of the Executive Committee of the People's Delegates Council of the 10th Ward of Kabul city this morning at the headquarters of the Revolutionary Council.

At this meeting, Comrade Babrak Karmal first asked those attending the meeting to inform him about the living conditions, demands and requirements of the people; about prices of basic commodities; about the situation concerning drinking water, medical health, education and training, and roads, and about other matters in the life of people, in particular the attitude of the government civil servants in regard to the people. Comrade Babrak Karmal said that notes should be taken about the difficulties and problems of the people of Kabul. These should be brought to the attention of government authorities in order to solve these problems, so that, through available means, actions may be taken for their solution. Comrade Babrak Karmal spoke on the leadership tasks of the PDPA, the state and the DRA Government and said:

[Begin Karmal recording] Dear friends and comrades, I have listened to you discuss the work and duties of the Executive Committee of the People's Delegates Council of Kabul City's 10th ward with much interest. First, I express my heartfelt thanks to you and your colleagues for your productive work in the interests of the people, our homeland and the aspirations of the April revolution. [passage omitted] So far over 1 million of our compatriots have participated in election activities. In my view this is the best example of support for the policy of our party, the PDPA, and our democratic government by the people of Afghanistan. The jirgas or councils, of which yours is one, are active in 1300 residential areas.

You have taken the responsibility, in accordance with the people's determination, to supervise the task of securing the needs [words indistinct] that bring about large and small problems though always vital. Hence, you are the servants of the people, as you should be. The service of our toiling and free-born people is cause for great pride. Serving our heroic and revolutionary people is a cause of greatness and virtue. Serving our people, who currently struggle against imperialism, reaction,and counter-revolutionaries, is brave and requires great courage, inherited from our fathers and ancestors as a national treasure.

The Central Committee, Revolutionary Council and the government, or the Council of Ministers, are all using their full potential so that you — the worthy servants of the people — can discharge your national, Islamic, humane and civil duties in a better, more constructive, way, with more innovation and new methods. Central departments responsible for the affairs of the local organs of state power and administration are being created. All the central institutions will pay more attention to the jirgas and new councils. It is the order of the revolution to more quickly improve our work in the capital and localities after the convocation of the 16th, 17th, and 18th Central Committee Plenums while reconstruction of party, political and government work is being advanced. The Central Committee of our party and its Politburo have displayed and will display effective and goal-oriented work for the reorganization of affairs. In practice they constantly remind and will remind the party and people that reconstruction is our priority in the course of new and old struggle. If this is (?linked) with revolutionary deeds, which comprise the new and old struggle, this will forge ahead more successfully. [sentence as heard]

The Revolutionary Council of the DRA and its Presidium are supporting the policy of the PDPA Central Committee for the reconstruction and effectiveness of the forms and methods of our work for an even quicker solution to the problems of the revolution. In the process of revolutionary modernization I see the dialectic or rational law that the national and democratic revolution of the Afghan people never stops, always continues and grows. [Words indistinct] therefore, I link effectiveness in the constructive and restructuring work with the process of revolutionary transformations. The revolution has undertaken many themes and each of the (?duties) allotted to us by the revolution (?should be accomplished).

Today I meet you, dear friends and comrades, once again, on behalf of the DRA Revolutionary Council and its Presidium. I approve and support the decision of the 18th Plenum in connection with the election of Comrade Najibullah as general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee. From the bottom of my heart I express satisfaction and gratitude to the Central Committee and its Politburo for their great confidence in entrusting me with the presidency of the Revolutionary Council and its presidium. The Revolutionary Council is in charge of many issues: the drafting and compilation of the new laws are under way and the formidable work on the draft of the new constitution of the DRA has been completed. We will publish the draft to allow for expression of views in a free and truly democratic manner. We would like you to understand that drafting of the constitution is (?merely) the beginning of the formidable task of constructing the democratic and new revolutionary (?state) of the Afghan people.

However, as the party teaches, on the list of formidable tasks the people must be seen too, the toiling human being must be seen. [Words indistinct] control to be strengthened from the bottom. Otherwise those in charge and civil servants sitting behind the desk will be turned into lazy and useless bureaucrats. Control and struggle against oppression and corruption, bribery and old and deviating psychology, is also very important. The Revolutionary Council and the organs of state power and administration have at their disposal enormous potential and untapped reserves. This potential and reserve must be utilized as soon as possible.

I want to address senior party members and all members of our party: Let us come and more actively implement the resolutions of the 16th, 17th, and 18th Plenums of the PDPA Central Committee. Let us come and struggle for the broadening of the social bases of revolutionary sovereignty. We have been dragged to the undeclared war of reaction and imperialism and each day our most valuable national wealth, that is to say the lives of our young, are being sacrificed. Therefore, we should continuously and more actively struggle for the purity of the party ranks, for the consolidation of unity and party discipline in accordance with the principles and standards of our party, the PDPA, the party of the working class and all toilers of Afghanistan, against all features of factionalism and groupings. Because, without modern-style party discipline and iron unity, successful leadership of the revolution, society, and government are impossible. Under present circumstances and conditions we should deal a crushing blow, with revolutionary (?deeds) and weapons of our party, to the subversion and false propaganda of the imperialist radio, the foreign enemies, and internal counterrevolutionaries.

Through friendly conversations I declare once again emphatically and specifically that we are and must be the earnest sons of our party. As a soldier of our party and as a passionate patriot of Afghanistan and internationalism, we will not forget, even for a moment, our revolutionary duties and service to the people and our homeland.

In this respect, Afghan-Soviet friendship must be further expanded and consolidated as an internally formulated and national principle. We must make Afghan-Soviet friendship as firm as the Hindukush mountain.

The toiling Muslim Afghan people always express profound gratitude for the formidable, comprehensive and disinterested assistance of the Soviet Union to our country. We should always remember that in accordance with the determination of our people, Afghan-Soviet fraternity and friendship is the guarantor of the consolidation of our country's national independence. It also guarantees the victory of our revolution which cuts short the aggressive hand of international imperialism, headed by the U.S. imperialism and its dependents, in the sacred soil of our homeland and guarantees territorial integrity and our national sovereignty.

In conclusion, we must remember to safeguard our party's unity, which is the blood-price of the martyrs and heroes of our party and is a source of pride and honor of the homeland. Our party has one united heart; this heart beats in the chest of the courageous, toiling and brave Afghan people. With faith and pride we must serve our beloved homeland, the DRA. We must unite ourselves around our party's Central Committee and inflict crushing and deadly blows on the enemies of the April Revolution. Dear friends: I wish you further victories in your noble tasks. [applause] [end recording]

Commentary Views Private Sector in Economy

LD090632 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] Kabul, July 8, *Bakhtar*: A political observer of *Bakhtar* writes: The share of private sector in the total domestic gross products of Afghanistan in the last Afghan year exceeded 82 percent and this is indicative of the great significance of private sector in the national economy of the country. The approach of the party and state of the DRA towards the private sector is in the first instance based on the principled platform of the people's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, which hams been reflected in the fundamental principles of the DRA.

As a result of the active and purposeful shareholding of the private sector, shining successes have been attained in the sphere of development and promotion of private sector and its usefulness in the national economy as the complement of state sector. The request of the national capital holders for the setting up of 94 new industrial, commercial, transportation, construction and private service projects with an investment of 540 million afghanis (50 afs equal one dollar) is a manifestation of the fact.

There are wide possibilities for the initiatives and activities of private sector in the Afghan society which enjoy the encouragement and support of the state as well. The basic directions of the socio-economic five year development plan of 1986-1991 have placed other sensitive tasks vis-a-vis national investors and traders. It is envisages that at the end of the first five year development plan the products of the private sector in the sphere of agriculture and livestock will be increased by 14.8 percent, in the sphere of industry by 21.3 percent, in commerce by 43.1 percent and in the field of construction by 36.3 percent in comparison to the last Afghan year.

Iran Said Sending Afghan 'Fugitives' to Front

LD090635 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0419 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] Kabul, July 8, *Bakhtar*: The Iranian regime has collected the Afghan fugitives from various cities of Iran and have sent them to the Iran-Iraq war fronts. According to reports reaching here, Sepah Pasdaran, the Revolutionary Guards of Iran, has gathered 414 Afghan fugitives from Shamsabad and Esfahan cities and have sent them to war fronts. If anybody refuses to go to the war fronts he will be sent to jail. Over 180 Afghan fugitives are in jail for the same reason. The Iranian regime has set up a new camp in Mashhad city for giving military training to the Afghan fugitives. The Iranian authorities are gathering the Afghan fugitives from different Iranian cities and are sending them to this camp for receiving military training. The Iranian regime does not grant work permits to the fugitives in order to compel them to go to the war fronts for receiving a small amount of money.

Further Reportage on Situation in Punjab State

Barnala Urges 'Massive' Effort

BK081031 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] The Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has called for a massive national effort to tackle the Punjab problem. Addressing the state-level communal harmony and national integration council meeting in Chandigarh today, he said every citizen in the country should rise to the defense of the cause of human and nationalist values. He said these values should not be linked with the interest of one community or the other.

Mr Barnala said an all-out drive against terrorists launched by the state government is making good headway, but results cannot be expected overnight. He said those engaged in terrorist activities are no longer able to move about entirely unchallenged.

Describing some recent killings of innocent persons as lunatic acts, Mr Barnala said these are indications of desperation and panic in terrorists' rank.

Mr Barnala expressed the hope that if we are able to rekindle the spirit of enlightened nationalism, we will be victorious in the end.

A group of 51 Sikh freedom fighters called on the governor and chief minister of Punjab and leaders of other political parties to seek their cooperation in the restoring peace and unity in Punjab.

The leader of the group, Mr Gian Singh Veer, told newsmen in Chandigarh this morning that they will start their 8-day tour of Punjab from Anandpur Sahib tomorrow. During their tour, they will visit Patiala, Ludhiana, Jullundhur, Ferozepur, Amritsar, Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur and Ropar Districts.

A hardcore terrorist, Surjit Singh, of Ferozepur district has been arrested. A pistol and five cartridges have been recovered from him.

According to the police, Surjit Singh has admitted that he was involved in a number of serious crimes in the district.

Vajpayee Seeks Barnala Cooperation

BK081257 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] The Bharatiya Janata Party leader, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, has appealed to Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, to do all possible for Justice Desai for the smooth implementation of the Punjab accord.

Talking to newsmen in Yamunanagar, Mr Vajpayee said the issue of distribution of water should be settled overall with the territorial dispute and the Center should takeover the construction of the Sutlej-Yamuna link canal.

He said the issue of the transfer of Chandigarh to Punjab should not be linked with the law and order situation.

'Terrorists' Confess to Pakistani Training

BK081614 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] The Punjab state-level communal harmony and national integration council, which met in Chandigarh today, has urged the Center to take political administrative initiative to stop moral and material support received by the terrorists in Punjab from a neighboring country.

In a resolution adopted at its meeting presided over by the chief minister, the council said that the involvement of this country and some hostile international agencies causing communal strife and violence in the state is evident.

The council expressed its appreciation and satisfaction over the steps taken by the state government in combating forces of extremism and secessionism. It expressed grave concern at the migration to and from Punjab and urged the state government, the Center and others to take adequate steps to prevent the migration of minority communities. The council, while reiterating that the Punjab accord still continues to be the best hope for a peaceful solution to the Punjab, urged the Center to take action for its speedy implementation. The council appealed to the people of Punjab to maintain and strengthen the traditional communal harmony in the state.

Later, talking to newsmen, Mr Barnala said the magnitude of the migration of minority communities from Punjab is not as much as reported in some sections of the press. He said about 200 persons who crossed over from Pakistan have been arrested by the state police during the last 2 months. During interrogation, about 30 of them have confessed to have received training in Pakistan in subversive activities.

Meanwhile, the police has arrested 18 more suspected terrorists from different parts of the state and recovered some arms and ammunition from them.

AFP: 400 Sikhs Arrested

BK081507 Hong Kong AFP in English 1456 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Chandigarh, India, July 8 (AFP) — At least 540 suspected Sikh militants have been arrested in the Punjab over the last month, intelligence sources and officials said Tuesday. Intelligence sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that more than 400 members of the militant All India Sikh Students' Federation had been arrested in the last four days as the security forces launched a major crackdown on "terrorism". The federation is considered the sword arm of the Sikh separatist campaign.

Punjab's Chief Minister Surjit Singh Barnala told reporters here that at least another 200 Sikh youths had been arrested in the last month after returning from Pakistan. Forty have since been released. Mr Barnala said the youths were "badly treated" by Pakistani authorities. "They did not fit in Pakistan's (military) training programme and so returned." Some were said by police to have surrendered.

Several hundred Sikhs reportedly fled across the border soon after the Indian Army assault on the Golden Temple in 1984 June. India has often accused Pakistan of training Sikh extremists, a charge denied by Islamabad.

Meanwhile, four suspected Sikh militant gunmen shot dead a bank security guard in Amritsar on Tuesday, police and eyewitnesses said. The guard, Sain Singh, grappled with one of the attackers, but another shot him before fleeing with 5,000 rupees (400 dollars). The guard was said to have foiled a similar bid to loot the bank in July 1985 and been [as received] seriously wounded.

Nagas Kill Soldiers in Eastern Manipur State

BK081421 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Many Army jawans [soldiers] were killed and two others injured in a ambush with the underground Nagas on Ukhrul-(Jesanti) road in East Manipur yesterday.

They also snatched away a self-loading rifle and large quantity of ammunition from the Army patrol party.

Border Talks With PRC To Resume in Beijing 21 Jul

BK031059 Hong Kong AFP in English 1028 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] New Delhi, July 3 (AFP) — The seventh round of Sino-Indian talks on disputed border territory will be held in Beijing July 21, a Chinese official said here Thursday.

The Chinese delegation will be led by Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Liu Shuqing, the official said.

The Indian side will be represented by Foreign Secretary A.P. Venkateswaran.

The Indian Foreign Ministry declined to confirm the report, but said that an official announcement would be made in the next few days.

The Sino-Indian border is contested by one country of the other in three different areas. New Delhi has demanded the return of some 37,500 square kilometers (14,500 square miles) of land on the northern Indian border it claims China has occupied since the 1962 war between the two countries.

Beijing refuses to recognize the MacMahon line drawn by the British, claiming that a large part of the northeastern India state of Arunachal Pradesh is Chinese territory. China also disputes Indian claims to some territory around Sikkim, whose 1976 annexation by India is not recognized by Bejing.

The six previous Sino-Indian meetings held alternatively in Beijing and Delhi since 1981 have made little headway towards resolving the disputes.

The last round of talks was held in New Delhi in November 1985.

Shiv Shanker Meets With Benin Foreign Minister

BK090315 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] India and Benin have discussed ways and means of strengthening bilateral cooperation and the possbility of Indian technical assistance to the West African country.

The talks were held between the visiting Benin foreign minister, Mr Frederic Affo, and the external affairs minister, Mr Shiv Shanker, in New Delhi yesterday.

The two foreign ministers also discussed issues which will come up before the eighth nonaligned summit in Harare in September and the situation in South Africa.

Government Denies Training Indian 'Terrorists'
BK091027 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] Pakistan has again denied allegations that it was training terrorists for the purpose of committing crimes in the Indian State of Punjab.

A statement issued by the Pakistan Embassy in New Delhi says such allegations were usually based on the so-called confessions which clearly have no validity in law. The Pakistan Government is in no way involved in India's internal affairs. This is in conformity with the adherence of the principles of noninterference in other country's affairs as also with the view to fostering good-neighborly and cooperative ties with India. The Pakistan Government is firmly committed to this policy.

Islamization Bill Passed; Indian Charges Rejected
BK090559 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Excerpts] The Senate today unanimously passed the Constitution Ninth Amendment Bill, 1986, as reported by the Standing Committee. It provides that the Islamic injunctions will be the supreme law and source of guidance for legislation and policy-making. It empowers the federal shari'a [Islamic law] court to make recommendations for transforming the fiscal and taxation laws in conformity with the injunctions of Islam. [Passage omitted on other House proceedings]

Speaking on the occasion, Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo recalled his promise that the Constitution would be amended to ensure supremacy of Islam and to expedite the process of Islamization in national life. He said that passage of the bill today marked the fulfillment of his pledge to the nation. He reaffirmed his pledge to the nation that the Islamic laws will be the supreme in the country and all laws will be transformed according to Koran and sunna. The prime minister said that under the bill, the federal shari'a court has been given full authority to amend any law which contradicts Koran and teachings of the prophet.

The prime minister referred to his speech on the 31st of December last year after lifting the martial law while enunciating his 5-point program saying that first priority would be given to the establishment of Islamic democratic system in the country. He said that the government would not have presented today's bill if it was not sincere and honest, and the House would not have passed it. The prime minister cited Jinnah's words that the Muslim League's struggle for Pakistan had been started under his leadership so as to secure a separate homeland for Muslims of the subcontinent where they can live according to Islamic teachings. The prime minister repeated his pledge that efforts will continue until complete Islamization of the country. [Passage omitted on other House proceedings]

Earlier, two adjournment motions sought to be moved by Maulana Kausar Niazi were not pressed following Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan's statement. The foreign minister refuted Indian allegations about Pakistan's involvement in Sikh agitation in the eastern [Indian] Punjab. He said that India has failed to present even a single concrete evidence testifying to Pakistan's alleged involvement in east Punjab crisis.

The foreign minister described as totally baseless Indian prime minister's alleged accusations that Pakistan and Israel have connived to suppress the Tamil minority in Sri Lanka. He said that it is incorrect to even think of Pakistan cooperating with a country which it has opposed and never recognized. [Passage omitted on other House proceedings]

President on Islamization Bill
BK090419 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Addressing the joint session of parliament — Majlis-i Shoora — this afternoon, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq said the passage of the Constitution Ninth Amendment Bill by the Senate today was a historic achievement. It had all the constitutional ingredients for the enforcement of shari'a [Islamic laws]. It had been recognized that the tenets of the Koran and sunna were supreme. This would enable the Muslims of Pakistan to live their individual and collective lives according to the Koran and sunna. The bill would now be submitted before the National Assembly, and he was sure that it would be adopted by that august house also without any delay. The president congratulated Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, Law Minister Mr Iqbal Ahmad Khan, and the chairman and members of the Senate for unanimously adopting the bill.

He pointed out that the real issue was not the passage of the bill but the enforcement of shari'a. The passage of the bill did not mean the enforcement of shari'a but it would lead the way for it.

The president expressed the hope that the shari'a bill moved by private members would also be adopted by the parliament so that the country could have the blessing of the enforcement of Islam. He suggested to move forward by bringing about coordination between the Ninth Amendment bill and the shari'a bill.

The president recalled that nothing was done for the enforcement of Islam before 1977 and a beginning had to be made right from a scratch. He said he believed in the enforcement of Islam not through a revolution but in phases. He wanted the people's representatives to have the honor of enforcement of Islam.

The president said he realized that they could not achieve all which they wanted. But he was satisfied that they had done what was not done earlier during 30 years. He said the expectations of the people for the enforcement of Islam had gone high and they were anxious to see its implementation.

Referring to the federal budget for this year, the president said it had been prepared keeping in view the welfare of the people. It laid stress on the development of less developed and rural areas. He said our aim should be enforcement of complete economic system of Islam. The (?part) of this system is to utilize all resources for the common good of the people. The president said special attention was being paid to three sections of the society, namely, workers, the young, and women.

He said the call to observe the 5th of July as a black day had failed. It was not a black day but a day of deliverance. Had there been no 5th of July, there would have been no end to civilian dictatorship, no beginning of the enforcement of Islam, no general elections, no existence of this house, no restoration of democracy and no atmosphere for freedom of expression. He said it was a considered policy of the government to give freedom of expression, because democracy demanded that everyone should have the opportunity to convey his ideas to others. We believe in moderation and decency in every field of activity, including politics. If there was any digression from the limits of moderation, the government would also change its policy of tolerance.

The president stressed the importance of local bodies in a democratic system. This institution, he said, should be made more active. The president said local bodies were not rival to assemblies but their colleagues.

Referring to the Afghanistan problem, the president said it was closely linked with our internal situation. It was the issue of the defense of Pakistan, and Pakistan could not remain indifferent to it and would not bow before tyranny. He said 3 million Afghan refugees were living on Pakistani soil for the last 6 and 1/2 years as their country was in occupation of foreign forces. They were fighting for the liberation of their country. Not only Pakistan but the sympathies of the entire free world are with them. Until they acheive their objective we will continue to provide them moral support. He said Pakistan would never compromise its principled stand and would continue to provide succor to the Afghan refugees.

The parliament was prorogued at the conclusion of its sitting in Islamabad this evening.

Agreement Signed With USSR on Radio, TV Cooperation

BK081531 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Pakistan and the Soviet Union signed an agreement in Islamabad today to execute a program of cooperation and exchange in the field of television and radio broadcasting. The agreement was signed by the federal information secretary on behalf of Pakistan and by the Soviet ambassador to Pakistan on behalf of the Soviet Union.

Oil Minister Forecasts Increase in Production

GF081350 Rawalpindi THE PAKISTAN TIMES (Commerce and Industry Review) in English 7 Jul 86 p 3

[Text] Multan, July 6: Oil production in the country was expected to touch 50,000 barrels a day the next year showing an increase of 10,000 barrels from the present level of production.

This was stated by the Federal Minister of Petroleum, Haji Hanif Tayyub, while talking to newsmen at the Multan Airport on his arrival here this afternoon.

Measured with the present consumption of 1.68 lakh barrels a day, the production next year would account for nearly 35 percent of consumption.

He said during the current financial year the target of drilling 50 wells would be exceeded.

He said the government was encouraging participation in drilling by all sectors including foreign companies.

He said the Union Texas Company has discovered oil and gas Badin (Sind) at three places recently and reserves found at these places were being estimated.

The survey of offshore areas has been completed and its report would be completed very shortly, he said.

He said negotiations for an agreement with Occidental Company for offshore drilling were in the final stages. A Canadian company was also negotiating for taking up drilling in Sind.

He said bright prospects of discovery of oil and gas existed in Pakistan and government was taking all measures to make the most of all sources for exploitation of the same.

BANGLADESH

Ershad Visits, Comments on Indian Border Enclaves

BK090235 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] President Ershad today visited the Dahagram and Angarpota enclaves. This was the first-ever visit by any head of state or government in 40 years. Addressing the local people, the president said a union parishad [council] comprising Dahagram and Angarpota will be constituted. Besides, a police post will be set up and a health complex will be constructed. The president said we want to live with the neighbors in an atmosphere of friendship and amity. He said we signed an agreement with our neighboring country to get Tin Bigha corridor in exchange of Berubari. We have fulfilled our commitment, and we expect that our neighboring country will hand over to us the Tin Bigha corridor to help mitigate the suferings of the people of Dahagram and Angarpota. The president also announced a grant of 2 lakh taka for the development of 10 mosques and 3 temples of the area.

SRI LANKA

Delhi Cites Jayewardene on Provincial Councils

BK081419 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] The Sri Lankan president has said that the provincial councils proposed to be set up in the country is not only the way to solve the ethnic problem but also an effective form of decentralization of administration with speedier solution to problems in the region. Addressing the government parliamentary group in Colombo today, he said concrete proposals after being looked into by the political parties will be placed before the cabinet. They will be again presented to the parliament group for discussion and expression of views before being presented to the parliament for approval. Our Colombo correspondent, Plaban Majumder, reports that Mr Jayewardene had set a timeframe to bring in draft legislation in parliament to create provincial councils by mid-August.

Tamils Find 'Discrepancies' in Ethnic Proposals

BK081634 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] A delegation of the Tamil United Liberation Front [TULF] led by Mr Amrithalingam had a meeting with the external affairs minister, Mr P. Shiv Shanker, in New Delhi today. The Sri Lankan high commissioner, Mr Bernard Tilakaratna, also called on the minister. Briefing newsmen, the spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said that the latest proposals and clarifications conveyed to India by the Sri Lankan Government were presented to the TULF for examination. The Tamil United Liberation Front has found discrepancies in the proposals, which it says are substantive. These discrepancies relate to the set of proposals and clarifications transmitted to India on the one hand and the proposals presented to the political conference in Colombo last month on the other. In view of this, India has urged Sri Lanka to indicate the correct position in regard to these proposals and clarifications.

The spokesman, however, expressed the hope that the proposals conveyed to the Chidambaram commission together with clarifications on them could serve as a basis for a dialogue between the Jayewardene government and the island's Tamils. Asked to specify one of the substantive discrepancies, the spokesman pointed out that the document given to us speaks of devolution of power, while the document presented to the all-party conference in Colombo spoke about delegation of power.

Continuing Reportage on 'Separatist,' Police Clashes

Police Patrol Attacked, 1 Dead

NC071827 Paris AFP in English 1821 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Colombo, July 7 (AFP) — Tamil separatists attacked a police patrol in the northeast of the country Monday killing one policeman and seriously injuring four others, security sources said. The Ministry of National Security sources said that the attack occurred near Batticoloa on the road from Trincomalee, killing one policeman. Four others were seriously injured and were flown to Colombo for treatment, they added. In a separate incident Monday, the sources said that Tamil separatists looted and set fire to seven shops belonging to both Tamils and Moslems in the northeastern town of Mannar. (Meanwhile, one of the leading Tamil separatist groups said Monday in the southern India city of Madras that it was responsible for an attack Sunday on an army camp in Sri Lanka. The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) said that 10 soldiers were killed and as many wounded in the attack.) The Ministry of National Security in Colombo on Sunday had announced the attack but did not mention any casualties. It had said the troops repulsed a Tamil attack on a security camp at Mankerny, in eastern Trincomalee district.

Khomeyni Receives Families of Martyrs, MIA's, POW's

LD091221 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, families of martyrs, the missing and POW's from Babul in Mazandaran Province, Rahnan in Esfahan Province and Dolatabad in Tehran were received by Imam Khomeyni at Jamaran this morning.

During the meeting -- which was also attended by commanders of Islamic revolution committees from all over the country; Serajoddin Musavi, the overall commander of the Islamic revolution committees; Karrubi, the imam's representative and supervisor of the Foundation for the Martyrs of the Islamic Revolution and the deputy speaker of the Majlis -- the imam expressed congratulations for the recent victories achieved by the combatants of Islam and prayed for their final victory. He praised the families of the martyrs, the missing in action and the POW's for their self-sacrifices and conveyed the imam's praises, congratulations and condolences to them.

At the end of the meeting, the imam of the ummah acknowledged the cheers of the audience.

Prime Minister Visits East Azarbayjan Province

GF080626 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Unidentified correspondent's report on visit by Prime Minister Musavi to Parsabad village near Moghan — recorded]

[Text] Mr Mir Hoseyn Musavi, prime minister, this morning arrived in Parsabad Airport near Moghan to visit East Azarbayjan Province and to meet with its people. He was welcomed by the governor general of East Azarbayjan Province, Friday imams and clerics from Parsabad and (Jurmi), local officials, and local military and security officials.

Soon after his arrival at the Parsabad airport near Moghan, Mr Musavi reviewed a guard of honor and then the local commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in East Azarbayjan gave a report on the warm enthusiasm of the people to go to the battlefronts.

An agro-industrial official from Moghan gave a report to the prime minister on the situation of the economy in the area. Mr Musavi went on a half-hour aerial tour of the area by helicopter and saw the capabilities and possibilities of agriculture in the area. Several Majlis deputies are accompanying the prime minister on this visit.

Notes Need for Self-Sufficiency

LD081623 Tehran IRNA in English 1541 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Kaleybar, East Azarbaijan Prov., July 8, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said here Tuesday that efforts of Iranian nation to attain self-sufficiency will enable it to stand firm against the superpowers.

The prime minister said that the arrogant powers had hatched the oil price plot to shatter Iranian resistance and force Iran to open its borders to them. "However", he said, "we believe that the government backed by the nation will thwart the conspiracy by taking long strides towards attaining self-sufficiency."

Most revolutions, after achieving victory were forced to reach out to global powers because of their economic difficulties, Musavi said. But, he noted, the Islamic Revolution of Iran inspired by Islam is the only revolution in the world which has opposed both the superpowers and held out on its own. "Faith is our only weapon against the superpowers", Musavi said, noting that the Iranian people's faith had served to jeopardize the big powers' interests, despite their sophisticated weapons and extensive propaganda networks.

The prime minister further reiterated the need to continue the war until ultimate victory and said that the Iranian people are determined to give a decisive response to the aggressor (Iraq) so that in the future no other country will dare attack Iran.

Emphasizes Role of Agriculture

LD081945 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] The Central News Unit has sent us the following report on the visit to East Azarbayjan Province by Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi: In East Azarbayjan Province this morning, Prime Minister Musavi inspected the Kaleybar and Vazkan areas, the sugar-beet industry, and the export of fruit from the Moghan agro-industrial unit. He also inspected the Sanabel 1 and 2 schemes and issued reminders to the officials concerned with building a road in these areas and also with regard to expanding Moghan airfield.

This afternoon the prime minister arrived in Tabriz where he was welcomed by the provincial authorities. He then met with Ayatollah Malakuti, the imam's representative in Azarbayjan.

In an interview with the Central News Unit's correspondent in Tabriz, the prime minister referred to the fact that East Azarbayjan is one of Iran's agricultural centers, and, in connection with securing agricultural funds, he said: In the new economic conditions, paying attention to agriculture is one of the priorities of the new economic plan. And in view of the economies already carried out, the funds needed by agriculture have priority over other sectors and will be secured. Recently, the Export Council approved cash loans to set up organizations for the export of agricultural produce.

Addresses Rally in Tabriz

LD081955 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi took part in a rally of clergymen and responsible officials at Ayatollah Malakuti's residence today. During the rally the imam's representative and Friday imam of Tabriz, welcoming the prime minister and expressing support for the government, said: The people of East

Azarbayjan, shoulder to shoulder with other people in the country, are prepared to carry out any service and are serving.

Then Mr Musavi made a speech in which he referred to the new economic situation as a turning point in the country's economic position providing appropriate use is made of the conditions. He said: The existing conditions are the result of hidden divine blessings given to speed up the achievement of the constitutional targets aimed at economic independence.

In conclusion he expressed hope that the government and nation, inspired by Islam and the Koran, would be able to turn this year into a year of victory.

At the end of his visit to East Azarbayjan Province Prime Minister Musavi was seen off by Ayatol'ah Malakuti, the imam's representative and Friday imam of Tabriz, by the provincial governor-general, and by a group of clergymen. After inspecting a guard of honor, the prime minister left Tabriz and arrived in Tehran at about 1720.

Government Acknowledges Role in Frenchmen's Release

NC261314 Paris AFP in English 1311 GMT 26 JUN 86

[Excerpts] Tehran, June 26 (AFP) — Deputy Foreign Minister Javad Larijani acknowledged Thursday that Iran played a "constructive and vital" role in the release of two French hostages in Lebanon, saying this was because of French policy "change."

Iran could do the same for British hostages in Lebanon, "with the same condition that London should change its policy towards the Islamic Republic," he added in a *Tehran Times* interview. [Passage omitted covered by referent item]

The French pair, TV crew members Philippe Rochot and Georges Hansen — two of nine Frenchmen missing in Lebanon — were released last Friday by the Moslem pro-Iranian Organisation for Revolutionary Justice.

Mr. Larijani said Iran had "ideological links with certain political groups in Lebanon who understand our role in regional and international politics and follow us in certain ways." This did not mean the groups "follow us blindly or Tehran directs them in their overall political struggle against world arrogance," he added.

Asked if France had sold arms to Iran or planned to do so, Mr. Larijani replied, "well, we receive every day several offers from several countries for the sale of arms and we (act) according to the set rules and regulations."

Mr. Larijani also said, "we expect from the British not to join hands with the United States in the plots hatched by Washington against the Islamic Republic." If Britain wanted relations with Tehran, it had to "first accept the realities in Iran," and had to note "there is no room for giving political bribes" in Iran's present political system.

Khomeyni's Son, Musavi Honor President's Late Father

LD081806 Tehran IRNA in English 1735 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 8, IRNA — A ceremony commemorating the passing away of Seyyed Javad Khamene'i, the father of President 'Ali Khamene'i, was held on behalf of Imam Khomeyni the leader of the Islamic revolution, at Martyr Mottahari Mosque here Tuesday. The imam's son, Hojjat ol-eslam Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, participated at the ceremony on behalf of the imam.

President Khamene'i, Prime Minister Musavi, Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Chief Justice Ayatollah 'Abdol Karim Musavi-Ardabili, several military and civilian officials and foreign diplomats in Tehran were also present at the ceremony.

Syrian President Cables Condolences

LD081820 Tehran IRNA in English 1806 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Damascus, July 8, IRNA — Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad cabled a message of condolence to his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Khamene'i on the death of his father Ayatollah Javad Khamene'i on Tuesday. The president's father, Javad Khamene'i passed away in the holy city of Mashhad at the age of 93, Saturday.

Meanwhile, President 'Ali Khamene'i sent a message to Ayatollah Montazeri, Tuesday thanking him for his message of condolence on the death of his father.

Further Reportage on Visit of Syrian Delegation

Commission To Review Oil Agreements

LD052036 Tehran IRNA in English 1953 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 5, IRNA — Iran and Syria have agreed to allow a joint commission to review oil agreements between the two countries. The decision was made in a meeting here Saturday between visiting Syrian Oil Minister Ghazi al-Durubi and his Iranian counterpart Gholam Reza Aqazadeh.

The Syrian minister said in the meeting that his country understands Iran's positions on the oil price conspiracy and that it believes the imperialist plot was hatched to defeat the Islamic Revolution. "The plot", he added, "will undoubtedly fail".

The two ministers also expressed hope that Irano-Syrian political and economic relations would continue to expand. Al-Durubi and his accompanying delegation arrived here Friday.

Western 'Plot' on Oil Prices

LD081622 Tehran IRNA in English 1530 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 8, IRNA — Visiting Syrian Industry Minister 'Ali al-Tarabulsi said here Tuesday that imperialists have hatched the plot to keep oil prices depressed in order to pressure

the Islamic Republic and eventually defeat the Islamic Revolution.

Al-Tarabulsi who made the remarks in a meeting with Iranian Minister of Mines and Metals Mohammad Reza Ayatollahi here Tuesday said that there was no doubt that this conspiracy would be defeated as were others before it.

In response, Ayatollahi said that Iran is determined to undo the new U.S. plot aimed at keeping oil prices down. He also said that Iran is prepared to provide Syria with some of its needed raw materials for industries and share its expertise with Damascus.

Among other topics discussed at the meeting were the expansion of Tehran-Damascus ties, exchange of mutual experiences and exchange visits by Iranian and Syrian experts.

Meets With Foreign Minister

LD081246 Tehran IRNA in English 1225 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 8, IRNA — The visiting Syrian delegation to Tehran met Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati Monday and informed him of the outcome of its recent talks with Iran's oil and commerce ministers.

The Syrian officials, pointed to brotherly ties between Syria and the Islamic Republic of Iran and called for further strengthening of the relations.

In response, the foreign minister thanked the delegation for visiting Iran and said such visits will consolidate Tehran-Damascus friendship. "Such consolidated friendship between Iran and Syria will certainly effect the fate of the region", Velayati said.

On the Iraqi imposed war, Velayti said the recent recapturing of Mahran doubled the importance of the liberated oil-port of Al-Faw in southern Iraq. He said that shortly after the occupation of Mehran by enemy forces, Iraq's ruler Saddam Husayn claimed that his country was ready to exchange Mehran for Al-Faw in a bid to equalize importance of the two cities.

Syrian Minister of Economy and Financial Affairs Dr. al-'Imadi called Saddam Husayn of Iraq a 'war criminal' and said even the declining oil prices, which has [words indistinct] progressive Islamic countries, was a result of his mischievious acts.

The Syrian delegation includes ministers of economy and financial affairs, oil, and industries.

Further on Velayati Meeting

JN081835 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran — Today Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati received the Syrian Arab delegation currently visiting Iran. Iyad al-Mahmud, Syrian charge d'affaires in Tehran, was also present. Velayati reiterated Iran's stand alongside the struggle waged by Syria to confront Zionism and international imperialism. He also affirmed the Iranian leadership's desire to expand cooperation between the two friendly countries. The talks during the meeting dealt with Syrian-Iranian relations and ways to develop them in all spheres. Both sides' viewpoints were identical on all matters discussed.

The Syrian and Iranian delegations held the second session of economic talks at the Iranian Trade Ministry at noon today. During this session, the two delegations continued their discussion of economic and trade relations between Syria and Iran and ways to bolster them in the interest of both peoples in the two friendly countries.

The two delegations also discussed the contracts and protocols signed between the two countries and the possibility of expanding them to include other economic and trade spheres in order to strengthen friendship and cooperation between Syria and Iran.

The specialized committees of the Syrian and Iranian delegations continued their meetings in the Iranian capital to discuss economic cooperation between the two countries in order to submit the results of their work to the competent circles for the adoption of suitable decisions.

Confers With Rafiqdust

LD081926 Tehran IRNA in English 1840 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 8, IRNA — Visiting members of a Syrian delegation met and conferred with Iran's minister of Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Mohsen Rafiqdust, here Tuesday on expansion of Tehran-Damascus cooperation and strengthening of mutual relations.

The Syrian delegation comprises that country's Ministers of Finance and Foreign Trade Muhammad al-'Imadi, Oil and Natural Resources, Ghazi al-Durubi and Industry 'Ali al-Tarabulsi. The delegation arrived in the Iranian capital July 4.

Syrian oil minister Al-Durubi, told Rafiqdust that it is the Islamic Republic's right to put Saddam Husayn on trial for having started the war with Iran.

In response, the IRGC minister said that the only alternative remaining from Saddam Husayn is to commit suicide or flee Iraq.

Syrian Officials, Interior Minister Meet

GF090622 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, members of the high-level delegation from Syria, comprising ministers of finance and economy, oil and industries and mines, plus the charge d'affaires of Syria to Iran and the Syrian Embassy's economic attache in Tehran, met with Mr Mohtashemi, the minister of interior, yesterday afternoon. During this meeting, which was held at the Ministry of Interior, bilateral issues and expansion of economic and political ties between the two countries were discussed.

'Informed Official' Disapproves of OPEC Ceiling

LD081218 Tehran IRNA in English 1212 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 8, IRNA — The Islamic Republic of Iran will not accept an OPEC production ceiling of 17.6 million barrels per day nor unrealistic quotas for each member country, said an informed official from the Iranian Oil Ministry here Tuesday.

The official said reports in the weekly *Middle East Economic Survey* [as received] in this respect were baseless and the publication's report that Iran's quotas stand at 2.4 million barrels per day was untrue. He said the forthcoming extraordinary session of OPEC in Geneva will decide the organisation's production ceiling and quotas for each member country.

As Iran has repeatedly stated, any increase in OPEC's production will not improve the position of the organisation in the market and will result in lower prices. He further added that at the end of the recently concluded OPEC oil ministers meeting in the Yugoslav island of Brioni no official statement on production increase was issued.

The continuing decline in oil price following the Brioni meeting, he told IRNA, is a proof of the righteousness of the stance of Iran in the organisation.

Navy Chief Affirms Commitment to Gulf Security

LD071828 Tehran IRNA in English 1823 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 7, IRNA — Iran's Navy Commander Captain Mohammad Hoseyn Malekzadegan said here Monday that Iran, as the strongest country in the region, is capable of and committed to maintaining the security of the Persian Gulf.

Malekzadegan termed the statement of the U.S. commander of Rapid Deployment Force on Washington's commitment to keeping the Persian Gulf open to shipping as "interference" in the internal affairs of the countries of the region. He called on regional countries not to remain silent over such threats.

The Islamic Republic of Iran will continue to maintain the security of the Persian Gulf and of the Hormuz Strait in the future just as it has so far done throughout the Iraqi-imposed war, the Navy commander said.

Attacks U.S. Commander's Statement

GF090749 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] In a statement to IRNA, Iran's Navy commander, Captain Mohammad Hoseyn Malekzadegan, has pointed to the resentful remarks made by the circles supporting Iraq's Zionist and Ba'thist regime after each and every victory achieved by the Islamic army with a view to boosting the morale of the Baghdad administration and the puppet regimes in the region. He said: In fact, immediately after Mehran's recapture as a result of the great victory that the Islamic fighters achieved in the "Karbala'-1" operation, General George B. Crist, commander of the U.S. Central Command, said in an insolent way in Bahrain that it was the task of the United States to keep the Hormuz Strait open to all ships.

Noting that the statement made by the U.S. general implies interference in the internal affairs of the countries of the region and that these countries should not remain indifferent toward such insolence, Captain Malekzadegan stressed the ability of the Islamic Armed Forces to defend Islamic Iran's interests. He said: Maintaining security in the Persian Gulf is the responsibility of the countries in the region. As the strongest country in the region, Islamic Iran will utilize all its strength to maintain security.

Commentary on Crist's Gulf Tour

GF081854 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] General George Crist, commander of the U.S. Central Command, previously called the Rapid Deployment Force, is making a reconnaissance tour of the Gulf region. After visiting Bahrain he visited Kuwait. His claims that he is visiting Kuwait to acquaint himself with this country conflict with facts. This visit comes at a time when Kuwait is witnessing exceptional conditions and indicates that the United States is concerned about these incidents and is expressing obvious readiness to defend its interests in the Gulf region.

If we follow up the birth of the Rapid Deployment Force we will learn that this force was formed after the success of the Islamic Revolution. The declared objective of its formation was the preparedness and readiness to rapidly and directly interfere any time the Gulf region is subjected to foreign interference. At that time Al-Sadat made great efforts to convince the Gulf countries that the major danger threatening the reactionary regimes was not the Zionist entity, but the Islamic Revolution. On this basis, the formation of the Rapid Deployment Force was formed to confront the results of this revolution and its threats to the U.S. interests in the Gulf region.

For this reason, Crist's visit to Kuwait and his previous visit to Bahrain are merely visits to the positions of operations of the Rapid Deployment Force. As Crist's statements indicate, the other objective of this visit is to give a clear signal to the Islamic Revolution to force it to stop its legitimate acts in moitoring the maritime navigation lanes and in searching any ship suspected of carrying to the Saddam regime items that may increase its aggressive capability.

George Crist has stated that the United States will ensure the safety and security of the navigation lanes in the Gulf region. In response to this statement the commander of the naval force in the Islamic Republic stressed that the United States should return to its place and that the security of the region is the responsibility of the region's states.

In addition to this arrogance and boasting, Crist's statement also carries another image of U.S. interference in the affairs of other

countries. The United States knows well that its coasts are not located on the Persian Gulf and that the countries overlooking the Gulf have the obligation to ensure security in the region. U.S. attempts to interfere will drag the region into another stage of deep crises. The rulers who open their countries to the United States will bear the burden for these crises. The interests of the region's peoples and states lie in keeping the United States away from the region. It is in the interest of all to send George Crist back to his country and not to welcome any American general who wants to inflame our region.

The region's rulers should stop contradicting their words with their deeds. While we hear them speaking about the dangers of foreign interference in the Persian Gulf region and the responsibility of the region's states for ensuring protection and security of the region, we find out that these rulers are opening their countries to the American generals and are paving the way for U.S. fleets to dock at their naval bases. Such acts will bring into the region great threats, the danger of which cannot be predicted.

If the U.S. move is aimed at undermining the Islamic Republic, then Iran will stand strongly and firmly vis-a-vis such interference. Those who think that the Islamic Republic will abandon its rights in the Persian Gulf due to threats alone should reconsider their views and realize the danger of what they are doing. With such acts they will inflame the region.

Paper Castigates Kuwaiti Media, Warns Rulers

GF071353 Tehran KEYHAN AL-'ARABI in Arabic 30 Jun 86 p 6

[From the "We and the World" column: "The Deferred Decision"]

[Text] The Kuwaiti press is accusing the Islamic Republic of being involved in the recent explosions in the oil installations at the Al-Ahmadi port.

The accusation follows statements by several members of the Kuwaiti National Assembly who said that the explosions occur every year and coincide with parliament's debate of the budget, with the aim of blackmailing Kuwait for continuing to give financial aid [to Iraq]. The parliamentarians called for the resignation of the ministers of oil, defense, and interior.

We do not wish to reply to the Kuwaiti press because those who run the Kuwaiti papers and those who write in them are mercenaries, and their mercenary appetites are whetted when they direct their hatred at the Islamic Republic and revolutionary movements.

Our response to them will give them an importance they do not deserve. Therefore, we will confine our response to the emirate's shaykhs who instructed them to level their accusations at the Islamic Republic. We say to them that the Islamic Republic does not and will not carry out such actions in Kuwait or anywhere else. If they had wanted to fight a war with the emirate the Islamic forces stationed a few kilometers from Kuwaiti territory can exercise their control over the emirate in a few minutes.

The Islamic forces have been able to inflict a bitter defeat on the biggest military establishment in the Arab east in terms of numbers, training, and sophisticated equipment. They have captured more than 60,000 Iraqi professional military personnel, that is, three times the number of the Kuwaiti Army. In the Al-Faw battle alone they have killed, wounded, or captured more than 70,000 Iraqi military personnel in record time and liberated territory equivalent to the territory occupied by all Kuwaiti cities. The Islamic forces are pressing their leaders to respond to the Kuwaiti media's abuse and to teach their leaders a harsh lesson. However, the Iranian leaders have their future plans and prefer to engage in a direct confrontation with the Zionist enemy which is supported militarily by the Pentagon and the U.S. fleets. Are the shaykhs of Kuwait aware of these facts or do they need a practical lesson?

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

'Karbala'-1' POW's Arrive in Qazvin

LD071240 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 July 86

[Text] Accoridng to reports from the Central News Unit, the first convoy of Iraqi POW's, captured by the combatants of Islam during the "Karbala'-1" operations in Mehran area, arrived in Qazvin last night. This report indicates that the people of Qazvin welcomed the POW's chanting the slogans "War, war until victory," and "Death to Saddam."

More POW's Arrive

LD071245 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] The Central News Unit correspondent reports from Ilam on the arrival of the second convoy of Iraqi POW's: This morning, the second convoy of Iraqi POW's who have been captured by the victorious combatants of the army of monotheism in the course of the "Karbala'-1" operations in Mehran operational theater, arrived in Ilam in 20 buses. They were welcomed by the hezbollahi ummah of this city who lined the streets waiting for their arrival for hours. People were shouting "Death to Saddam," "Death to America," "Death to Israel," and "War, war, until victory."

2,000 Iraqis Killed Near Mehran

LD081718 Tehran IRNA in English 1646 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 8, IRNA — At least 2,000 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and many others captured when Muslim forces of Iran launched an offensive against Iraqi positions across the "Karbala"-1" operational theater early Tuesday, said Khatam ol-Anbiya' Military Headquarters.

The headquarters said that 40 square kilometers of Iraqi soil as well as three strategic heights in the region overlooking western Iranian border city of Mehran were liberated by Iranian forces after a heavy battle.

In the battle, Khatam ol-Anbiya' said, Iraqi Brigades 93, 113, 71 and 72 were totally routed and tactical headquarters of Iraqi Second Corps and those of enemy Brigades 71 and 93 were seized by Iranian forces. Some 150 Iraqi soldiers captured during the operations have been transferred to the Iranian side of the fronts, the headquarters said.

A total of 3,100 square kilometers of territory and has been liberated since the "Karbala'-1" operations began on June 30. [sentence as received]

Khatam ol-Anbiya' added that two Iraqi colonels were killed during the battle. It added that deputy commander of Iraqi Brigade 71 and four other commanders of enemy battalions were also captured.

Some 20 Iraqi tanks and personnel carriers were destroyed and eight others seized intact by Iranian combatants during the offensive, the headquarters said. It also said that an enemy munitions depot between the Iraqi cities of Badrah and Zurbatiyah in which rockets and artillery rounds were stored was also hit and set ablaze.

Enemy forces have been totally disarrayed and have repeatedly shelled their own postions by mistake following the desertion of commander of Iraq's 7th Division in the region, General Diya' Tawfiq, the headquarters noted. Elsewhere communication links of Iraqi units in the region with the head command of the Ba'thist Iraqi Army have been disconnected.

Muslim forces of Iran have fortified their positions in the region and are capable of crushing all enemy movements, Khatam ol-Anbiya' said.

The offensive was launched to control Iraqi positions inside Iraq and check enemy movements in the region and on Badrah-Baghdad road, the headquarters said.

Communique No 2,525

LD081740 Tehran IRNA in English 1730 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 8, IRNA — Iraqi troops concentration centers in Mehran region sustained considerable losses when they were heavily bombed by Iranian jet fighters four times Tuesday. All planes participating in the missions returned to bases safely, said a military communique here.

Communique number 2525 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces said that Iranian artillery fire inflicted heavy casualties on Iraqi troops and that fighting in the region continued over the past 24 hours.

In western fronts Iraqi positions as well as Banmil oil installations sustained heavy damage when they were hit by Iranian artillery fire. The movements of several Iraqi motorized columns in Naft-e Shah region were also halted, the command said.

The communique said exchange of artillery fire continued in the southern fronts raging somewhat more heavily in Nahr-Anbar and Hoseyniyeh. It added that Iraqi engineering activities were also halted in Nahr-Anbar region.

An Iraqi patrol unit, attempting to infiltrate Iranian positions near Faqqeh was forced to flee as a result of Iranian fire. Muslim combatants also inflicted damage on an Iraqi armoured unit in Yebis, the communique said. Iranian patrol units infiltrated Iraqi positions in Majnun Islands and killed several Iraqi soldiers, and in Dehloran Gendarmerie forces shelled Iraqi positions killing several of them, according to the communique.

Ten Iraqi soldiers were killed, five tanks and military vehicles and five group bunkers of theirs destroyed in Zobeydat and Bayat. Iranian fire also restricted Iraq activities in northwestern fronts, the communique concluded.

Shelling of Iraqi Townships Denied

LD081925 Tehran IRNA in English 1847 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 8, IRNA — Iran categorically denied an Iraqi claim on Tuesday that it had shelled the Iraqi townships of Abu al-Khasib and Al-Qurnah. A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters (WIH) described Iraqi's claim as "pure fabrication" and said Iranian forces have all along responded to enemy troops at the war fronts. The WIH spokesman said that the Iraqi regime had raised such claim to whitewash the defeat of its Second Army Corps in the "Karbala'-1" theater.

The Baghdad Government claimed Monday and Tuesday that Iranian Forces had shelled the southern Iraqi townships of Abu al-Khasib and Al-Qurnah.

Air Force Bombs Iraqi Troops

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[Text] At 0545 this morning [0215 GMT], pilots flying several fighter-bombers of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Air Force severely bombed troop concentration points and support units of the Zionist enemy in the "Karbala'-1" operational area. They delivered heavy casualties and damage to the aggressive enemy's infantry and armored units. According to the Central News Unit, our fighter-bombers, returned safely to base after carrying out this mission. This same report indicates that the crushing blows delivered against the Zionist forces of the regime ruling Iraq caused the destruction of four brigades — the 71st, 72d, 113th, and 93d — as well as causing general disarray in the 36th Infantry Brigade and Commando Brigade Number 5 and the killing and wounding of some 2,300 of the aggressive Iraqis. More than 155 of Saddam's mercenaries were taken prisoner by the warriors of Islam.

The forces of Islam have now established themselves in the designated areas and are busy strengthening their captured positions. They are controlling any movement by the Zionist enemy.